

76 COMMENTARY ON MACAULAY'S
HISTORY

of the reign of James II has even been commenced, and that for the reign of William III, commenced in 1895, ^{has} reached (1933) 1698. Nor was there in existence then any calendar of the Colonial State Papers.

Thus Macaulay had not at his disposal many documents which are easily accessible to the historians of to-day. Even when they were accessible they were not arranged, catalogued, or calendared so as to make the task of using them as comparatively easy as it is at the present time.

Then, as now, there were outside the Record Office a number of collections of letters and some memoirs or autobiographies in private hands, generally in the possession of descendants of the persons who wrote them. Macaulay's reputation secured him access to many of these collections, and as soon as it was known that he was writing a history of the Revolution people placed at his disposal manuscripts bearing on the time, and librarians hastened to throw open their stores. Dr. Vignoles, the Dean of Ossory, lent him the autobiography of a Huguenot refugee, named Dumont de Bostaquet, who accompanied William of Orange in his voyage to England and fought under him at the battle of the Boyne.¹ Mr. Phippard let him use the manuscript narrative of John Coad, one of Monmouth's followers, who was tried by

Jeffreys and
transported to Jamaica,² Lord Lansdowne
allowed him
to see some of Prior's papers, Lord Lonsdale
some written
by his ancestor, Sir John Lowther, who played
an import-
ant part in William's reign.³

² IV, 1679 (xiv). Published in 1864 as *Memoires inedites*,
ed. C. Read and
F. Waddington,

² II, 640 (v). Published in 1849 as *A Memorandum of the
Wonderful
Providence of God*.

'Ill, 1356 (xij).